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Charter of Incorporation,

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

OF

THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE

OF

THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA

FOR THE

PROMOTION OF THE MECHANIC ARTS.

TO WHICH IS ANNEXED,

A LIST OF MEMBERS, AND OF THE OFFICERS FOR 1824.

TOGETHER WITH

THE FIRST QUARTERLY REPORT OF THE BOARD OF MANAGERS, MADE TO THE INSTITUTE AT A MEETING HELD APRIL 15TH, 1824.

Published by Order of the Institute.

PHILADELPHIA:

Printed by William Fry, George Street near Sixth Street.

1824.

At a Stated Meeting of the Franklin Institute of the State of Pennsylvania for the Promotion of the Mechanic Arts, held April 15th, 1824, the Board of Managers offered their First Quarterly Report, which was read, together with the accompanying documents.

On Motion,

Resolved, that the Report be accepted.

Resolved, that the Board of Managers be authorised to publish, in the pamphlet form, and in the city papers, the Report, and such of the documents as they may think fit.

JAMES RONALDSON,
President.

WM. STRICKLAND,
Secretary.

AN ACT

To incorporate the Franklin Institute of Pennsylvania for the Promotion of the Mechanic Arts.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same*, That the subscribers to the association called the Franklin Institute of the state of Pennsylvania for the Promotion of the Mechanic Arts, and all such persons as may be hereafter admitted members of the same, shall be, and they are hereby declared to be, a body politic and corporate, by the name and style of "The Franklin Institute of the state of Pennsylvania for the Promotion of the Mechanic Arts," to have perpetual succession, to sue and be sued, implead and be impleaded, in all courts of record or elsewhere, to use a common seal, and break, alter, and renew the same at pleasure, and to take, hold, and enjoy lands, tenements, and hereditaments; *Provided* that the clear yearly income of the real estates held by them shall not exceed two thousand dollars.

SECTION 2. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That the objects of the said corporation shall be the promotion and encouragement of manufactures and the mechanic and useful arts, by the establishment of popular lectures on the sciences connected with them, by the formation of a cabinet of models and minerals, and a library, by offering premiums on all objects deemed worthy of encouragement, by examining all new inventions submitted to them, and by such other measures as they may judge expedient.

SECTION 3. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That the members of the said corporation shall consist of manufacturers, mechanics, artizans, and persons friendly to the mechanic arts; they shall pay such sum annually or in gross as shall be required by the by-laws of the said corporation for an annual or a life subscription; *Provided* that nothing herein contained shall be construed to prevent the said corporation from electing honorary or corresponding members, who may be exempted from such payments and other duties of membership, in such manner and to such extent as may be prescribed by the by-laws of the said corporation.

SECTION 4. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That the officers of the said corporation shall be a president, two vice-presidents, a recording secretary, a corresponding secretary, a treasurer, and twenty-four managers, who shall together constitute a board of managers of the said corporation, and such other officers as the said corporation shall deem needful; two-thirds of the managers shall be manufacturers or mechanics: the

said officers shall be elected at an annual meeting of the said corporation, to be held on the third Thursday of January, if an election shall not take place on that day, the corporation shall not for that cause be dissolved, but an election shall be held as soon afterwards as may be, and until such election the officers in place shall continue to act; public notice of all elections shall be given in such manner as may be prescribed by the by-laws of the said corporation; the present officers of the said association are hereby constituted the officers of the corporation hereby created; and shall continue to hold their respective offices till others are elected under the provisions of this act; *Provided always*, that the said corporation shall have power to increase the number of vice-presidents and managers herein-before mentioned, to such number as may be deemed advisable and convenient at a stated meeting of the said corporation, the same public notice of such intended alteration being previously given as may be required to be given of the election of officers of the said corporation.

Section 5. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That the duties and rights of the members of the said corporation, the powers and functions of the officers thereof herein-before mentioned, and of such others as may hereafter be added, the mode of supplying vacancies in office, the times of meeting of the said corporation, and of the board of managers, the numbers which shall constitute a quorum at any such meetings, the mode of electing members, the terms of their admission, the causes which shall justify their suspension or

expulsion from the corporation, and all other concerns of the said corporation shall be regulated by the by-laws and ordinances of the said corporation hereafter to be made, which the said corporation is hereby authorized and empowered to make and alter, in the manner which may be therein mentioned; *Provided* that the said by-laws or ordinances shall not be repugnant to or inconsistent with the constitution and laws of the United States or of this Commonwealth.

Office of the Clerk of the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, March 30th, 1824.

I certify that the foregoing Bill passed both branches of the Legislature, and received the signature of the Governor on this day. As witness my hand the day and year above written,

(Signed)

JNO. D. PRICE, Clerk.

CONSTITUTION,

Adopted February 5th, 1824.

I. *Title.*

The Society shall be known by the name of the "FRANKLIN INSTITUTE of the State of Pennsylvania for the Promotion of the Mechanic Arts."

The object of this Institute shall be the promotion and encouragement of Manufactures and the Mechanic and Useful Arts, by the establishment of Popular Lectures on the Sciences connected with them; by the formation of a Cabinet of Models and Minerals, and a Library; by offering Premiums on all objects deemed worthy of encouragement; by examining all new Inventions submitted to them, and by such other means as they may judge expedient.

II. *Members.*

1. The Members of this Institute shall consist of Manufacturers, Mechanics, Artisans, and persons friendly to the Mechanic Arts.

2. Any person desirous of becoming a Member shall be proposed by two Members of the Society to the Board of Managers, who shall decide on his

application at the next meeting. Any person who may have been rejected by the Managers may appeal to the next quarterly meeting.

3. No person shall be entitled to the privileges of Membership until he shall have paid his first annual contribution, and have signed this Constitution.

4. Honorary or Corresponding Members may be elected by the Board of Managers at their discretion, and shall be reported at the next ensuing meeting of the Institute.

III. *Meetings.*

1. The Stated Quarterly Meetings of the Institute shall be held on the third Thursday in January, April, July, and October, at half-past six o'clock, P. M.

2. Special Meetings shall be called by order of the President, on application of the Board of Managers, or twelve Members. Fifteen Members shall constitute a quorum.

IV. *Payments.*

1. Every Member shall pay an annual contribution of three dollars, which will entitle him to all the benefits of the Institution.

2. The payment of twenty-five dollars shall constitute a Member for life, with an exemption from all annual payments.

V. *Officers.*

The Officers of the Institute shall be a President, two Vice-Presidents, a Recording Secretary, a Cor-

responding Secretary, a Treasurer, and twenty-four Managers, to be chosen annually. Two thirds of the Managers shall be Manufacturers or Mechanics.

VI. *Elections.*

The first Election for Officers of the Institute shall be held on Monday, the 16th day of February instant, and the subsequent annual Elections shall be held on the third Thursday in January; but if no Election shall take place at that Meeting, the Officers in existence shall continue in office till a new Election be held. No Member shall be entitled to vote until all arrears shall have been paid.

VII. *President.*

It shall be the duty of the President, or, in case of his absence, of the senior Vice-President, or, in their absence, of a President to be chosen pro tempore, to preside at the Meetings of the Institute, to preserve order therein, to put all questions, and announce the decisions.

VIII. *Secretaries.*

1. It shall be the duty of the Recording Secretary to keep a record of the proceedings of all Meetings of the Institute, and to give notice of the stated and special Meetings.

2. It shall be the duty of the Corresponding Secretary, to answer all letters addressed to the Institute, to open and maintain such correspondence as may tend to advance its interest, and to keep a record of such correspondence, subject to the direc-

tions of the Board of Managers; he shall notify all honorary or corresponding Members of their Election.

IX. *Treasurer.*

It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to collect and receive all monies of the Institute. He shall make no payments without written vouchers from the Board of Managers. He shall keep accurate accounts of the Income and Disbursements of the Institute; exhibit an accurate statement of his receipts and payments at the Quarterly Meetings of the Institute, and whenever called upon by the Board of Managers, and give bond for the faithful performance of his trust.

X. *Managers.*

1. All the Officers of the Society shall be Members of this Board, and to the said Board shall be confided, in general, the various objects and concerns of the Institute, with authority to devise and execute all measures which may advance its interests.

2. They shall keep regular Minutes of their proceedings, and submit them to the Institute when called upon.

3. They shall, at the quarterly Meetings of the Institute, present a detailed report of their proceedings.

4. They shall hold stated meetings once in each month. They shall elect their own officers, and be at liberty to make by-laws for their own regulation, and that of the Institute. Seven of their number shall constitute a quorum.

5. They shall have power to fill vacancies in their Board from Members of the Institute.

XI.

To alter or amend this Constitution, notice shall be given, stating the intended Amendment, at any Meeting of the Institute, and it shall be acted upon at the next or any subsequent Meeting. If two-thirds of the Members then present approve of it, it shall become part of the Constitution.

BY-LAWS

Adopted by the Board of Managers.

Article 1.

The Officers of the Board shall be a Chairman, a Secretary, and two Curators.

Article 2.

The Chairman shall preside at the Meetings of the Board; he shall sign all orders upon the Treasurer of the Institute, when the accounts shall have been passed by the Board; and shall call special Meetings, whenever he shall receive a written request signed by five Members.

Article 3.

The Secretary shall keep correct records of all proceedings of the Board, subject at all times to the inspection of any of its Members, he shall notify every Committee of their appointment, through their Chairman, and shall transmit to him any documents relative thereto, within two days after the appointment of the Committee. He shall keep a roll of the

Members' names, and at every meeting note the absentees. He shall give notice of every meeting of the Board by printed circulars. He shall lend no document or paper of the Board to any Member thereof, without a receipt. He shall keep a roll of the Members of the Institute, classed according to their occupations, and it shall also be the duty of the Secretary to attest all orders drawn by the Board.

Article 4.

The Curators shall have charge of all the property of the Institute, except the records, papers, and books, which may be assigned to any of its Officers.

Article 5.

The stated Meetings of the Board shall be held on the first Thursday in each month, at six o'clock, P. M. from the stated Meetings in October to that in March, and at 7 o'clock, P. M. during the other months.

Article 6.

The order of business at the meetings of the Board shall be, 1st, reading the minutes; 2d, new business; 3d, reports from standing committees; 4th, reports from select committees; 5th, proposal of candidates; 6th, elections; 7th, calling the roll.

Article 7.

Standing Committees shall be nominated by the Chairman, and approved of by the Board, on: 1st, finance 2d, lectures; 3d, library; 4th, cabinet of

models and minerals; and 5th, on premiums and exhibitions; each to consist of five members.

Article 8.

Committees on the examination of any new Machine or Invention which may be offered, shall be appointed in the following manner: the Chairman of the Board shall nominate one of the Members thereof, who, when approved of, shall act as Chairman of the Committee; and the other Members of the Committee shall be nominated and elected by the Board from any Members of the Institute.

Article 9.

All other select Committees shall be nominated in the following manner: the Chairman shall nominate to the Board the Chairman of the Committee, who shall name a second Member, and he a third, &c. until the whole number be filled, a vote being taken upon each.

OFFICERS

Of the Franklin Institute for 1824.

JAMES RONALDSON, *President.*

MATHEW CAREY, } *Vice-Presidents.*
ISAIAH LUKENS, }

WILLIAM STRICKLAND, *Recording Secretary.*

PETER A. BROWNE, *Corresponding Secretary.*

THOMAS FLETCHER, *Treasurer.*

Managers.

1. Robert Patterson,
2. Paul Beck, jun.
3. Thomas Leiper,
4. John Harrison,
5. Thomas Gilpin,
6. Samuel R. Wood,
7. Henry Horn,
8. W. H. Keating,
9. J. Katez,
10. Daniel Groves,
11. John Haviland,
12. Samuel V. Merrick,
13. William Abbott,
14. John D. Eisenhut,
15. David H. Mason,
16. John P. Wetherill,
17. Clement C. Biddle,
18. Adam Ramage,
19. James J. Rush,
20. James Clarke,
21. Abraham Miller,
22. M. T. Wickham,
23. James Harper,
24. Jos. Cloud.

Standing Committees.

Committee on Lectures.

Peter A. Browne,
M. Carey,
Samuel R. Wood,
Samuel V. Merrick,
W. Strickland.

Committee on Finance.

James Harper,
Henry Horn,
Clement C. Biddle,
Mathew Carey,
Thomas Gilpin.

Committee on Library.

Mathew Carey,
J. Katez,
Samuel V. Merrick,
William H. Keating,
Peter A. Browne.

Committee on Cabinet of Models and Minerals.

Isaiah Lukens,
John D. Eisenhut,
John P. Wetherill,
David H. Mason,
John Haviland.

COMMITTEE ON PREMIUMS AND EXHIBITIONS.

James Ronaldson,
Robert Patterson,
Thomas Fletcher,
Adam Ramage,
James J. Rush.

LIST OF MEMBERS.

John Agnew, Fire Engine Maker,
Thos. Astley, Merchant,
William Abbot, Brewer,
William Abrahams, Printer,
William Adams, Teacher,
Asher Atkinson, Saddler,
Rev. G. T. Bedell,
Paul Beck, Jr. Shot Manufacturer,
Robert Bald,
George Blight, Merchant,
Frederick Brown, Druggist,
Moses Brown, Merchant,
Peter A. Browne, Counsellor,
Samuel Baker, Carpenter.
Samuel Budd, Stove Manufacturer,
Charles N. Bancker, Merchant,
William Y. Birch, Bookseller,
Clement C. Biddle, Notary Public,
M. W. Baldwin, Machinist,
Samuel Brashears, Attorney at Law,
Marcus Bull, Gold Beater,
James Baker,
David Paul Brown, Counsellor,
John C. Browne, Shipsmith,
Joseph Biddle,
William Bozarth, Carpenter,
Nicholas Biddle, President U. S. Bank,
Newson Baker,

Joseph Burden, Chair Manufacturer,
J. S. Barnard,
William T. Bladen,
George E. Blake, Musical Composer,
Wm. C. Beck, Manufacturer of Paper Hangings,
Thomas Biddle, Broker,
Joseph Barry, Cabinetmaker,
Samuel F. Bradford, Printer and Bookseller,
C. G. Childs, Engraver,
Mathew Carey, late Printer and Bookseller,
Henry C. Carey, Printer and Bookseller,
R. A. Caldcleugh,
Richard Cooper, Carpenter,
Owen Cotton, Machinist,
Solomon Cartmell, Blacksmith,
Hugh Campbell, Plumber,
George N. Clarke, Machinist,
George R. Crooks, Currier,
B. P. Coston, Carver,
Joseph Carter,
William Christie, Upholsterer,
William Curtis,
John R. Coxe, M. D.
Joseph Cloud, Refiner of Mint,
J. W. Condy, Counsellor,
James Clarke, Carpenter,
John Clark,
James Crissy, Bookseller and Binder,
Henry L. Coryell, Carpenter,
Turner Camac,
Isaiah Chapman,
William Cannon, Hatter,
W. P. Dewees, M. D.

Alfred Drake, Druggist,
Charles A. Droz, Horologist,
Adam Dialogue,
Robert De Silver, Printer and Bookseller,
Joseph Donaldson, Hatter,
John Daves,
Henry During,
John Dickinson,
Victor Du Pont, Cloth Manufacturer,
Benjamin Duncan, Wood Corder.
James Dougherty, Tailor,
John Dowers, Distiller,
E. J. Dupont, Powder Manufacturer,
Isaac Deanes,
John D. Eisenhut, Coppersmith,
James English, Blacksmith,
Hugh English, Blacksmith,
Levi Ellmaker, Merchant,
Adam Eckfeldt, Coiner of Mint,
John P. Earnhart, Turner,
Samuel Emery, Bleacher of Wax,
James Earle, Carver and Gilder,
William Edwards, Painter,
Oliver Evans, Founder,
Charles Evans, Blacksmith,
Thomas Fletcher, Silversmith,
Gideon Fairman, Engraver,
Alexander Fullerton, Druggist,
William Fry, Printer,
Robert M. Ford, Copperplate Printer,
James Field, Merchant,
Frederick Fraley, Baker,
Benjamin F. French,

David Folley, Saddler,
Nathaniel Fowle, Hatter,
William Gibson, M D. Surgeon,
John Garrat, File Cutter,
Isaac B. Garrigues, Marble Mason,
William Garrigues, Jr. Carpenter,
Robt. E. Griffith, M. D.
David Gallagher, M. D.
Jonas Gleason, Hardware Manufacturer,
Thomas Gilpin, Paper Manufacturer,
Charles Graff, Merchant,
Samuel N. Gray, Brewer,
Daniel Groves, Bricklayer,
Frederick Gaul, Brewer,
Thomas F. Gordon, Counsellor,
Joseph George, Currier,
Sam el Graham,
William Gardner,
Robert Hare, M. D. Professor of Chemistry
John Harrison, Operative Chemist,
George Hyde, Bookseller and Binder,
George Harley, Coppersmith,
Joseph P. Hamelin, Printer,
John Haviland, Architect,
Henry Horn, Silverplater,
Jesper Harding, Printer,
Isaac Hays, M. D.
Reuben Haines, Agriculturalist,
Benjamin B. Howell, Merchant,
William S. Hansell, Sadler,
Thomas Hughes, Teacher,
Peter Hertzogg, Sugar Refiner,
Thomas Halloway, Steam Engine Maker,

Christopher M. Hocker, Marble Mason,
Thomas Hulme, Bleacher,
James Hays, Jr.
William C. Hancock,
Adam Herkness, Marble Mason,
John Hanna,
Edmund Hollinshead,
Paul K. Hubbs, Merchant,
James Harper, Brickmaker,
Philip Justus, Carpenter,
William Jones, Secretary N. A. Insurance Co.
George Jeffries, Coachmaker,
John Johnston,
Edward D. Ingraham, Counsellor,
Alphonso C. Ireland, Carpenter,
John James, Jr. Cabinetmaker,
John Johnson, Wheelwright,
Paul Jones, Paper and Pasteboard Manufacturer,
William Kneass, Engraver of Mint,
Wm. H. Keating, Professor of Chemistry,
John H. Kane, Counsellor,
J. Katez, Bookbinder,
Christian Kneass, Silverplater,
John C. Kinnan,
William Keer, Rope Maker,
Samuel Kennedy, Carver and Gilder,
Robert Kid, Coppersmith,
John Keating, Jr. Counsellor,
Michael Katez, Bellhanger,
John Kenworthey, Painter and Glazier,
S. H. Long, Major U. S. Engineer Corps,
Thomas Linnard, Lumber Merchant,
B.B. Lippincott, Hatter,

M. D. Lewis, Merchant,
George S. Lang, Engraver,
Samuel Lyon, Tinplate Worker,
Isaiah Lukens, Machinist,
James B. Longacre, Engraver,
Joseph S. Lovering, Bell Founder,
Clement Letourno, Smith,
Harvey Lewis, Silversmith,
Charles Lex, Jr. Merchant,
Thomas Leiper, Tobacconist,
——— Myers, Painter,
Prosper Martin, Steam Engine Maker,
James Mease, M. D.
Samuel V. Merrick, Fire Engine Maker,
Thomas M'Euen, M. D.
David H. Mason, Machinist,
William Mayweg,
John Mortimer, Bookseller,
J. Muhlenberg, P. D.
William H. M'Dowell, Horologist,
Abraham Miller, Potter,
Arthur Murphy, Bricklayer,
Thomas M. Morris, Brewer,
George W. Mentz, Bookbinder,
John M'Allister,
James M'Alpin, Draper,
Clements S. Miller, Counsellor,
Robert M'Minn, Blacksmith,
John Monell, Draper,
Hezekiel Newcomb,
Robert E. Nuttle, Coachmaker,
John Norvell, Printer,
Charles O'Hara, Type Founder,

John O'Neill, Carpenter,
Robert O'Neill, Carpenter,
Robert M. Patterson, M. D. Professor of Natural Philosophy,
John Hare Powel, Agriculturalist,
Robert Patterson, Director of Mint,
Jacob Peirce, Teacher,
Edward Pennington, Jr. Sugar Refiner,
James C. Prichett, Currier,
John W. Patten,
Charles P. Parke, Founder,
John J. Phillips,
Edward Poole, Coachmaker,
Richard Peters, Jr. Counsellor,
Daniel Pryor,
A. Plantou, Dentist,
John Pierce, Plumber,
Adam Partenheimer, Brewer,
Andrew M. Prevost, Broker,
Benjamin F. Pomeroy,
Daniel Poole,
James Ronaldson, Type Founder,
Richard Ronaldson, Type Founder,
James J. Rush, Iron Founder,
William Roland, Saw Manufacturer,
Horatio G. Rowley, Plumber,
Mark Richards, Iron Founder,
Henry J. Riehle,
Charles Robb, Draper,
Adam Ramage, Printing Press Maker,
Israel Roberts, Coppersmith,
John Richardson, Bookseller and Printer,
George Rumst,
William H. C. Riggs,

Aaron Ross, Saddler,
William Rush, Carver,
James Roland, Iron Master,
Benjamin Robbins, Carpenter,
John Roberts, Accountant,
Daniel B. Smith, Druggist,
E. Spencer Sergeant, Counsellor,
Daniel Smith, Carpenter,
Isaac Starr,
John Struthers, Marble Mason,
Felix Thibault, Jeweller,
William Strickland, Architect and Engineer,
John T. Sullivan, Bookbinder,
John E. Schivars,
Joshua Shaw, Artist,
Joseph H. Schreiner, Hardware Merchant,
Joseph H. Smith, Accountant,
Edward Shelmerdine, Hatter,
L. Steganini, Marble Mason,
Asa Spencer, Machinist,
George W. Smith, Counsellor,
James Somerville, Iron Founder,
Powell Stackhouse, Carpenter,
John Speakman, Druggist,
Thomas Snowden, Carpenter,
Christian Sulgar,
Job R. Smith,
William Savery,
Benjamin Stancliffe, Machinist,
John H. Schrader,
Samuel M. Stewart, Manufact. of Paper Hangings,
Jacob Seniff,
John Simmons,

Joseph R. A. Skerret, Printer,
James Simpson, Combmaker,
Thomas Scheiber,
Frederick Straley, Saddle Tree Maker,
Jacob Stockman, Thimble Maker,
Richard M. Small, Bookseller,
George Trueman, Tin Manufacturer,
John Tennent, Stone Cutter,
Thomas Taylor, Currier,
Thomas. K. Tresse, Carpenter,
Joseph M. Trueman, Tin Plate Worker,
Samuel Thackara, Plasterer,
Benjamin Tucker, Teacher,
Thomas Underwood, Engraver,
John Vaughan, Merchant,
M. R. Vanhorn, Carver,
Roberts Vaux,
C. C. Watson, Jr. Draper,
Samuel R. Wood, Tanner,
M. T. Wickham, Gunsmith,
James Whitaker,
John Wickersham,
Charles H. White, Cabinetmaker,
D. Winebrenner, Draper,
John P· Wetherill, Chemist,
Henry R. Watson,
Joseph Watson, Draper,
Charles Wetherill, Druggist,
J. Watson, Lumber Merchant,
Wm. M. Walmsley, Stock, &c. Broker,
William Woodward, Printer and Bookseller,
James B. Wood,
George Wilson, Leather Manufacturer.

FIRST QUARTERLY REPORT,

Made to the Institute, at a Meeting held April 15, 1824.

To the Franklin Institute of the State of Pennsylvania for the promotion of the Mechanic Arts.

The Board of Managers, in pursuance of Article V. Section 3, of the Constitution, offer their first Quarterly Report of the Transactions of the Board.

Within three days after their election, your Board met and organized themselves, by the election of ROBERT PATTERSON, Esquire, as their Chairman, and WILLIAM STRICKLAND, as their Secretary.

A Committee was appointed to prepare By-laws, which, after having been submitted to the Board, were adopted, and of which a copy is hereto annexed.

The necessity of obtaining a charter of incorporation without delay, and the advanced stage of the session of the General Assembly, induced your Board to lose no time in applying for an Act to this effect, which they have great pleasure in stating was granted previous to the adjournment, and which, from the copy now presented to the Institute, will be found to embrace every object which the Society

might wish for, and to leave it unshackled in the adoption of any measure that may hereafter appear conducive to the advantage of the Institute.

Your Board have found with great pleasure, that as the objects of the Society became generally known, they met with the approbation of the community at large, of which a flattering evidence will be found in the annexed list of the members; and from the number that have desired their names to be inscribed on the list of candidates, and whose election is necessarily postponed until the next meeting of the Board, there is every reason to expect a great and rapid increase in the number of members.

Your Board have been anxious to commence immediately the usefulness of the Institute, by the establishment of popular lectures during the present season; but as the funds of the Society are still very low, they have had recourse to the zeal of their members, and are happy to state that the Introductory Lecture, which will be delivered on Wednesday, the 28th instant, by Dr. Robert M. Patterson, will be followed by volunteer lectures, to be delivered by some of the Members, every Wednesday evening, at seven o'clock, and to these the attention of the Members is earnestly called.

An object of equal, if not of greater importance than the preceding, is that of public exhibitions, to which all the products of national industry may be sent; the effect and consequence of such exhibitions will necessarily be to extend the reputation of the Institute, to stimulate the zeal of the members, and to excite a proper degree of emulation and of justifia-

ble rivalry among the numberless manufacturers and mechanics of this city. It is confidently believed that when the products of our industry are collected from the various workshops now dispersed throughout the city and state, and exhibited together, they will form a collection calculated to excite a gratifying sense of pride in the bosom of every well-wisher to the prosperity of our manufactures, and an encouraging hope that, under proper regulations, we may soon compete with foreigners in the manufacture of all useful articles.

By bringing together the various products of our workshops, we shall soon discover what manufactures flourish in the country—what objects are successfully prepared by our mechanics—and in what respects they are deficient. Great as is the merit of new inventions, your Board is convinced that to attain perfection of workmanship in old established inventions, is an object of at least as great importance—and hence, the principle which they have adopted as the basis of the exhibition to which they now invite your attention, is, that perfection in workmanship is to be encouraged, as well as novelty in invention. But to obtain perfection of workmanship, necessarily requires that a sufficient time should be allowed to the mechanic to prepare with care those objects which he wishes to submit to the scrutinizing eye of the public. Under this impression, and with a view of holding the exhibitions at that time of the year when the greatest concourse of strangers in our city can be expected, the Board have resolved that the exhibitions shall be held at the time of the Quarterly Meeting in October of every year.

The plan of the exhibition to be held in October next, as well as the conditions under which the articles may be deposited on that occasion, at present occupy the attention of your Board, and as soon as they shall have been prepared, they will be communicated to the public through the medium of the papers. Your Board beg leave, most earnestly, to submit to the Institute the necessity of every Member's using his efforts to give popularity and renown to the exhibition, by sending to it objects of his own manufacture, or by calling to it the attention of those whose products would, in his opinion, be honourable to the country.

As connected with this subject, the Board wish to call your attention to that provision of the Constitution, which declares, that they shall examine all new inventions submitted to them. Your Board would have found themselves unable to do justice to this subject, unless they had adopted that By-law which allows them to appoint Committees from the Society at large, for the examination of new machines or inventions. In the performance of this useful and interesting task, the Board flatter themselves that they will meet with the cordial assistance of every Member of the Society.

Several machines have already been laid before them, upon which it is expected that detailed reports will be made—of these, the Board will take measures to submit to the Society all such as may appear of general interest.

Among the objects which your Board have in immediate contemplation, are the following, viz.

1. The obtaining of a suitable room for the Meet-

ings of the Institute. 2. The formation of a Library. 3. The creation of a Cabinet of Minerals and Models of Machines.

In the execution of these plans, as much economy as possible will be used, for the funds of the Society are still in their infancy; but they flatter themselves that by the liberality of the members in particular, and of the public at large, the expense attending the formation of a Library will be considerably reduced. To avoid all unnecessary expenditures, the Library and Cabinet shall be placed under the control of Curators, who being Members of this Board, will attend to this duty without any compensation, and thereby a saving of considerable importance to the Society in its origin will be effected. The Board have to acknowledge, that a liberal spirit towards the Library has already been manifested by several Members, who have promised to assist in its formation. The Curators elected for the present year, are David H. Mason, and Samuel V. Merrick.

The Corresponding Secretary has, at the request of the Board, notified the formation of the Institute to all similar Societies known to your Managers; and it is intended that an active correspondence shall be kept up with all persons able to further the views of the Institute. As it is important that the Members should be made acquainted, as soon as possible, with all new inventions made throughout the Union, measures have been taken by the Board, to obtain as early as possible, a list of the patents granted in the city of Washington; and whenever the importance of the subject will warrant it, copies

of the specifications upon the most reasonable terms will be procured.

There are objects of still greater importance, which the Board entertain a hope, may at some future day be within the means of the Society—foremost among these would be the establishment of an Experimental Workshop and Laboratory, for the better instruction of Members, by the results of experience—but this would require a much larger sum of money than the Society has at present at its disposal. All that your Board will therefore venture to suggest on this subject is, that the Society should not lose sight of it, but embrace the first opportunity of stamping upon their Institution the greatest degree of usefulness, by the creation of such an experimental school.

Perhaps a measure of equal importance would be the publication of a Journal, on the plan of that lately commenced in London, and of which it is said, that one hundred thousand copies are sold in London, and its immediate vicinity. No doubt can exist that such a Journal would diffuse among our mechanics, at a low rate, much useful information; that it would contribute to make known without delay, the improvements of our artists, and by securing to them the merit of their discoveries, would afford them both wealth and reputation. But it cannot be doubted, that the establishment of such a Journal at this time would be premature, and that it might involve the Society in difficulties, which it is peculiarly desirable to avoid at the origin of our Institution.

In the meanwhile, as the first step towards the attainment of this object, your Board would call your attention to a Journal of this kind, which is proposed to be published under the direction of one of the officers of the sister Society, in the city of New York. Next to achieving ourselves a desirable object, the best measure is to encourage the efforts of others. Nothing can promote our views more effectually, than what has a tendency to disseminate knowledge, whatever may be the source from which it proceeds.

The report of the Treasurer hereto annexed, will show you that active measures have been taken to collect the dues from the Members. This course has been judged to be useful, not only to the Society, but also to the individuals that compose it. By suffering their contributions of this year to remain unpaid, the Members would but increase the difficulty of meeting that of the next year. Hence, such of you as have not yet been called upon, are requested to prepare yourselves to pay immediately a contribution, which, small as it is at first, might, by accumulating it for several years, become a burthen.

The expenses will be found to have been but inconsiderable as yet. The Board wish to accumulate their funds, and mature their plans before they incur any expense.

The importance of creating a permanent fund, to meet the future exigencies of the Institution, has been felt by the Board; and with a view to this effect, they have passed a resolution expressive

of their belief in the expediency of the measure, and authorising the Treasurer to purchase stocks, bearing interest, to the amount of two hundred dollars; and in order that no opportunity of improving the funds of the Society should be overloooked, a further sum of three hundred dollars has been deposited in the hands of the Philadelphia Saving Fund Society. Thus all the funds of the Institute will be disposed of in a profitable manner, with the exception of a small balance, kept in the hands of the Treasurer to meet current expenses.

The Board have annexed to this Report a copy of the Constitution, with such verbal corrections as were reported to them by the Committee appointed to revise its phraseology, at the meeting of the Society on the 5th of February last.

In conclusion, your Board beg leave to state, that a vacancy in their body having occurred by the resignation of John C. Browne, of Kensington, whose distance from the place of meeting, rendered it inconvenient for him to join the Board, they have by virtue of Art. 10, Sec. 3, of the Constitution, elected Adam Ramage, a member of the Institute, to fill Mr. Browne's place.

All which is respectfully submitted by

R. PATTERSON, *Chairman.*

WM. STRICKLAND, *Secretary.*

REPORT

Of the State of the Funds of the Franklin Institute of the State of Pennsylvania, for the Quarter ending the 10th day of April, 1824.

Receipts.

From James Ronaldson, Esq. for Life Subscription, ...	$25 00
From 191 Members, annual contributions,	573 00
	$598 00

Disbursements.

Paid Jacob Zeilin for attendance and lighting County Court Room, February 16, 1824, ...	$2 00	
Paid James Walsh, for services, .	6 50	
Paid James Walsh, commissions for collecting dues, ...	7 95	
	$16 45	
Balance in the hands of the Treasurer, ...	581 55	
		$598 00

Errors Excepted,

THOS. FLETCHER, *Treasurer.*

Philadelphia, April 10, 1824.

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